

REMARKS

In the Official Action of February 24, 2006, the Examiner rejected the pending claims pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 103 in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,323,210 (“Elder”) and Japanese Published Application JP 2002-229646 (referenced by the examiner as “Katsunori”), and U.S. Patent No. 6,252,519 (“McKenna”). For claims 3, 5, 15, 16, 17, 26, 27, 29, and 31, the Examiner additionally relied on U.S. Patent No. 5,572,201 (“Graham”).

Applicants traverse the rejections for pending independent claims 1, 14, 23, and 28. The Elder patent is directed towards controlling railroad trains over a portion of railroad track. This reference fails to disclose “a request to enter a road segment.” As expressed by this language, the claims relate to vehicles that operate on a road, such as cars, trucks, or motorcycles. They do not relate to trains.

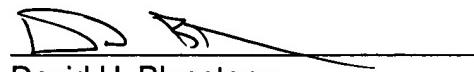
Moreover, for independent claims 1 and 14 and dependent claims 24 and 29, the combination of these references is improper. There is simply no reason to flash a light on a train that is miles away from another.

Applicants further traverse the rejections of dependent claims 2, 3, 5, 15, 16, 17, 26, 27, and 31. For claims 2, 16, and 30, the Examiner has provided no basis for why it would be beneficial to have a vehicle navigation system on a train. For the other claims, the Examiner has provided no basis why the text-based information of Graham would be helpful on a train.

Applicant has amended claim 29 so that it properly depends on claim 28.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner grant allowance of this application. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney via telephone if such communication would expedite this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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